

## ACTION IS BEGUN TO TEST VALIDITY OF EIGHT-HOUR LAW

(By Associated Press.)  
ATLANTIC CITY, N. J., November 15.—Unless unexpected opposition develops, members of the Mexican-American Joint Commission believed to-night no agreement covering the withdrawal of the American punitive expedition and a method of border control will be ready by the end of the week for submission to the two governments. The agreement, which would be subject to ratification, that an agreement was in sight was made by Ignacio Bonillas, one of the Mexican representatives, at the close of a session that had lasted until night.

## METHODIST CONFERENCE HOLDS OPENING SESSION

### Hears Encouraging Reports From Presiding Elders of Ten Districts.

**DR. SIMPSON TELLS OF GAIN**  
Richmond District, He Tells Bishop  
Kilgo, Won 1,100 New Members  
by Profession of Faith—Sunday  
Schools Outgrow Facilities.

Reasonable growth has taken place within the bounds of the Virginia Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, during the past year and gratifying spiritual and financial conditions prevail at present, according to reports made by the ten presiding elders to Bishop Kilgo at the opening session of its 124th annual meeting now being held at the Broad Street Methodist Church yesterday.

The presiding elders reporting were: Rev. R. T. Waterfield, Charlottesville District; Rev. S. J. Brown, Danville District; Rev. J. E. Carey, D. D., Eastern Shore District; Rev. M. C. Pfeiffer, Farmville District; Rev. W. H. Edwards, D. D., Lynchburg District; Dr. G. W. Jones, Norfolk District; Rev. E. Lipscomb, D. D., Petersburg District; Rev. W. T. Green, Portsmouth and Newport News District; Rev. R. J. McSparran, Rappahannock District; Rev. T. McN. Simpson, D. D., Richmond District.

**RICHMOND DISTRICT HAS  
MADE GREAT STRIDE**

The report of Dr. Simpson, of the Richmond District, was typical of the all.

"I have a good report to make," began Dr. Simpson. "The pastors have been faithful, diligent and helpfully co-operative. Campaigns for the conversion of souls were waged simultaneously last spring almost over the district, and the ingathering of sinners and the reclamation of backsliders was most gratifying. There were more than 1,100 additions to the church in the district by profession of faith. The appeals to the unsaved this year have been very successful.

"There has been much interest in the various activities of the church. The Sunday schools are outgrowing the facilities provided for them, and in several cases additional buildings have been constructed. The young people's work has been encouraging."

"Have you got any ecclesiastical slaughter pens in your district?" inquired Bishop Kilgo. "Do your people love their preachers? Talk can make or ruin a preacher. I have known the poorest kind of pastor to be talked out until he stood in the front ranks, and I have known good men ruined by spiteful tongues."

**ADVISES CHURCH TO GO  
AFTER POOR PEOPLE**  
"I'd like to know, too, Dr. Simpson whether you have any poor folks in your churches," continued the bishop in his characteristic manner. "Heaven pity the church that has no poor. If your churches have no poverty, attend

Dr. Simpson closed his report by stating that in the Richmond District there were thirty pastoral charges, sixty-two churches and 15,531 members. The district, he said, was a "rich" one.

Bishop John C. Kilgo, of Charlotte, N. C., called the conference to order promptly at 9:30 o'clock. The sacrament of the Eucharist was

Rev. B. F. Lipscomb, D. D., was unanimously re-elected secretary of the

conference, and on his motion Rev. J. T. Whitley, D. D., and Rev. Frank L. Wells were elected assistant secretaries. The roll call by Dr. Lipscomb showed 187 preachers present and twelve lay delegates. A considerable number of preachers arrived short-

after the roll was called. Before the end of the morning session the church was well filled with members of the conference and visitors.

**GREETINGS ARE EXCHANGED  
WITH BAPTIST CONFERENCE**

Greetings were sent by the members of the conference to the members of the church.

by order of the conference to the Baptist General Assembly of Virginia, session now at Norfolk. Before the close of the morning a reply from the Baptists was received. A telegram was sent also to Rev. John Q. Rhoads, Louisville, expressing the

Bishop Kilgo, in an interval between the reports of two presiding elders, in

"I take pleasure in presenting to you